

Serial No. : 10/036,973
Filed : December 29, 2001

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1-6 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by the cited Delorme et al. reference (U.S. Patent No. 6,321,158). Accordingly, Applicant has amended Claim 1 to more clearly distinguish the feature of the present invention from the technology disclosed in the cited Delorme et al. reference.

In Claim 1, as amended, Applicant has clarified that (1) the transceiver receives the event data from a remote event data server through a public communication system, and (2) the event data server is a service provider which provides event information including schedules of events to unlimited numbers of subscribed members". In the mapping information device disclosed in the cited Delorme et al. reference, the data terminal which is a PDA (personal digital assistant) is designed to receive data from a desktop computer, i.e., a personal computer. The desktop computer is not the event data server of the present invention. The portion that the examiner indicated in the office action regarding the cited Delorme et al. reference at column 8, lines 35-45 read as follows:

The "home-base" desktop personal computer system 105 and the detachable PDA communicate at 106 in FIG. 1A via plug-in wiring. The desktop/PDA interface 106 can be any means which facilitates data transfer including wireless infra-red, diverse kinds of wireless and other modems, and data transfer by various intermediate memory storage devices c.g. diskettes, PCMCIA cards and so forth. This communication interface between the portable PDA and home-base desktop facilitate transfer of a wide range of geographic data--including map, route, or point information--and other information.

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In the above extract, the cited Delorme et al. reference does not show any idea of searching event data. What are listed in this description, i.e., "geographic data, including map, route, point information" are typical items found any navigation system. These items are only related to locations or map. In contrast, an "event" is a planned and organized occasion, for example, a social gathering or a sports match (Collins, "COBUILD" English dictionary). Since the "geographical data" is not a planned and organized occasion but unchanged data fixed to particular locations. In other words, there is no notion of event shown in the cited Delorme et al. reference.

Further, in the present invention, as in the feature (1) above, the event data from a remote event data server is transmitted through a public communication system. Typical example of such a public communication system is a telephone network. In the example of Figure 6 shown in the instant application, the subscribers can access the event data server 81 through Internet. As is well known in the art, Internet is a computer network connected by the telephone network, i.e, public communication system. In the cited Delorme et al. reference, however, the PDA and the desktop personal computer communicate with one another to transfer data by a communication means specific to the PDA and desktop personal computer. Since it is clear that the public communication system is not used for the data transfer between the PDA and personal computer, the feature (1) of the present invention is not shown or suggested by Delorme et al.

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With respect to the feature (2) of the present invention, it is well known in the art that a PDA and a desktop computer communicate to transfer data such as addresses and telephone numbers or time schedules. However, the desktop computer is not the event data server of the present invention. As defined in Claim 1, as amended, the event data server is a service provider for providing event information including schedules of events to subscribed members of unlimited number. In the cited reference, however, the desktop personal computer and PDA can be used only a person who owns them. The personal computer is personal to the owner, and the PDA is unique to the personal computer, for example, synchronized with the personal computer. In other words, the relationship between the personal computer and the PDA is exclusive, i.e., not open to other PDAs or persons. Since the personal computer and PDA are not open to unlimited number of subscribers, the feature (2) of the present invention is not shown or suggested by Delorme et al.

As discussed above, the present invention is clearly differentiated from the cited Delorme et al. reference, and thus, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) is no longer applicable to the present invention. Claims 2-6 are dependent upon Claim 1 and define the present invention with further specificities. Since the present invention of Claim 1 is distinguishable from the cited Delorme et al. reference, the present invention defined in Claims 2-6 are also patentable over the cited reference.

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The Examiner rejected Claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over the cited Delorme et al. reference and the cited Cao et al. reference (U.S. Patent No. 6,446,004). The cited Cao et al. reference discloses a PDA combined with Global Positioning System (GPS) where the event information such as movies interrelates with the position information. However, as discussed above, there is a significant difference between the present invention and the cited Delorme et al. reference. Further, the cited Cao et al. reference does not show that the PDA is equipped with navigation function. Thus, the combination of the cited Cao et al. reference with the cited Delorme et al. reference will not make the present invention obvious, because none of the references shows an essential element as noted above. Therefore, Applicant believes that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) is no longer applicable to the present invention.

Claims 13, 14, 16 and 18 have been amended to correct the minor grammatical errors therein.

In this opportunity, Applicant has amended the specification to more clearly describe the present invention. With respect to the paragraph starting from page 10, line 29, the reference to "CUE Corporation" is removed because the corporation has been dissolved. This is to verify that no new matter has been introduced by this amendment.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant believes that Claims 1-18 are in condition for allowance, and accordingly Applicant

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respectfully requests that the present application be allowed and passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,
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